

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PORT L 00623 101049Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 COME-00 EB-07 LAB-04 SIL-01 TRSE-00
DLOS-09 OES-07 NEA-10 IO-13 OMB-01 ACDA-07 /127 W
-----101101Z 016657 /10

R 100809Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6773
INFO AMEMBASSY ANTANANARIVO
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
CINCUSNAVEUR
COMIDEASTFOR
CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L PORT LOUIS 0623

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PGOV PINT ELAB ECON MPOL UR SE MP
SUBJECT: MAURITIUS WEEKLY REVIEW - JUNE 10 SUMMARY

REF: PORT LOUIS 0601

1. PRIME MINISTER RAMGOOLAM ANNOUNCED IN A PUBLIC SPEECH ON JUNE 5 THAT A REFERENDUM ON WHETHER MAURITIUS SHOULD BECOME A REPUBLIC WOULD BE HELD BEFORE THE END OF THE YEAR. HE HINTED HE OPPOSES THIS CHANGE.

2. THE PRESS REPORTED THAT RAM HAS ACCEPTED AN INVITATION TO VISIT MOSCOW NEXT NOVEMBER FOR THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS OF THE REVOLUTION.

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3. FINANCE MINISTER RINGADOO WAS QUOTED AS SAYING THAT THE GOM WOULD CONSIDER RAISING WAGES THIS YEAR TO COMPENSATE FOR THE UPWARD TREND IN THE COST OF LIVING, A STATEMENT WELCOMED BY TRADE UNION LEADERS.

4. DURING THE WEEK THE MAURITIAN MILITANT MOVEMENT'S NEWSPAPER, LE MILITANT:

(A) SUMMED UP THE RESULTS OF THE PARTY'S CONFERENCE LAST WEEK, INDICATING THAT LEFT-WING, IDEOLOGICAL "PURISTS" HAD GAINED THE UPPER HAND;

(B) PUBLISHED THE TEXT OF A TRACT DISTRIBUTED AT THE MAY 29 LABOR PARTY CONGRESS BY BOOLELL FOLLOWERS WHICH SEVERELY CRITICIZED LABOR'S SECRETARY GENERAL JAGATSINGH;

(C) DENIED AGAIN, IN AN EDITORIAL, THAT THERE IS ANY POSSIBILITY OF A MMM-LABOR COALITION GOVERNMENT; AND

(D) WELCOMED THE COUP D'ETAT IN THE SEYCHELLES, AND THE LATTER'S "MOVE TO THE LEFT."

5. ACTING PRIME MINISTER BOOLELL (RAMGOOLAM LEFT FOR LONDON AND THE COMMONWEALTH MEETINGS ON JUNE 5) MAINTAINED SILENCE ON THE SEYCHELLES COUP AND INSTRUCTED MEMBERS OF THE CABINET AND OF THE ASSEMBLY TO DO THE SAME.

6. ON JUNE 6 MMM SECRETARY GENERAL BERENGER, SETTING OFF ON A TWO-WEEK VISIT OF SEVERAL EUROPEAN AND AFRICAN STATES, STOPPED OVER IN THE SEYCHELLES, WHERE HE MET WITH THE NEW LEADERSHIP, INCLUDING ALBERT RENE.

7. VISITS AT PORT LOUIS BY THE USS STERETT AND USNS MISPILLION JUNE 3-6 WERE WELL RECEIVED BY GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AND THE PRESS.

8. ON THE ECONOMIC FRONT, THE GOM AUTHORIZED INCREASES (A) IN BUS FARES OF 10 CENTS PER RIDE, AND (B) IN ELECTRICITY RATES OF 35 PERCENT ON THE AVERAGE. A FAVORABLE GROWING SEASON HAS CAUSED THE PRICES OF FRESH VEGETABLES TO DROP DRASTICALLY, HOWEVER.

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Disposition Remarks:
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Executive Order: GS
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SAS ID: 2194556
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
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TAGS: PGOV, PINT, ELAB, ECON, MPOL, UR, SE, MP
To: STATE
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Review Markings:
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